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Senate

The Senate met at 9:32 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. THURMOND).

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

This is Character Counts Week, established by the Senate to build the character of the American people. And today we consider two of the pillars of character: fairness and caring.

Let us pray.

O dear God, in a world where so much seems not fair and in a culture that has become so careless, where people so often are unfair and uncaring to each other, we ask You to give us more love, self-sacrifice, and more likeness of You so that we may do battle with anything that denies fairness or caring of people who are cherished by You. May our fairness and caring go beyond a cautious give and take. Teach us to sacrifice our own comfort to comfort others, our own preferences to give others a sense of what is good for them. Make us fair in thought, kindly in attitude, gentle in word, generous in deed. Remind us that it is better to give than to receive, to forget ourselves than to put ourselves first, to serve rather than expect to be served.

O dear God, help us care for our Nation and its future. May the Senators' caring for every phase of our society be an example to the American people. May there be a great crusade of caring and fairness, beginning right here and spreading across this land. May children see from their parents and from these leaders that caring and fairness are not only crucial but are the crux of our civilization. Dear God, make us courageous, caring, and fair people, for You are our Lord and Savior. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable WAYNE ALLARD, a Senator from the State of Colorado, led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The acting majority leader is recognized.

Mr. SANTORUM. I thank the Chair.

SCHEDULE

Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, today the Senate will immediately resume debate on the motion to proceed to the partial-birth abortion bill. There will be 20 minutes of debate with a vote to occur at approximately 9:50 a.m. It is anticipated the motion will be adopted, and therefore debate on the bill will continue throughout the day. It is the hope of the majority leader that an agreement can be reached with regard to amendments so the bill can be completed by the close of business tomorrow. The Senate may consider any conference reports available for action. I thank my colleagues for their attention.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ALLARD). Under the previous order, leadership time is reserved.

PARTIAL-BIRTH ABORTION BAN ACT OF 1999—MOTION TO PROCEED

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now resume debate on the motion to proceed to S. 1692, which the clerk will report by title.

The bill clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to the consideration of S. 1692, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to ban partial-birth abortions.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will be 20

minutes for debate equally divided and controlled between the majority and minority leaders.

The Senator from Pennsylvania is now recognized.

Mr. SANTORUM. I thank the Chair.

Mr. President, we will be voting on a motion to proceed to a bill that we have brought up in the Senate now for the third session of the Senate, third Congress in a row. I do not believe there is much controversy with respect to considering this bill. Obviously, this bill is going to pass, and it is going to pass by an overwhelming vote.

The concern that was voiced last night, and I think will be voiced today, is that we are moving off campaign finance reform to the partial-birth abortion bill. I am hopeful we can recognize that we had a good debate on campaign finance reform; amendments were offered; there were several days for those amendments to be offered; and it is apparent there is not enough votes to overcome cloture, to break a filibuster, if in fact that was going to be called for, and that it is time to move on to other business, whether it is partial birth or bankruptcy or appropriations bills and the like, and that a week, almost a week-long debate on the issue of campaign finance reform was, in fact, sufficient.

We know where the votes are going to come out. I don't think anyone is going to be changed by further debate and further amendments. It is time to move on to the other business at hand. I hope we can have some sort of comity here that would allow the business to continue. I think that would be good for all of us, particularly those of us who would not like to be here through the holidays for a long period of time, who would like to get back home after we finish our business to spend some time with our constituents in our States.

So, again, I think a fair debate was had, the votes are clear, and further debate will do nothing other than take up

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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